

AMALGAM™



#1

THORION

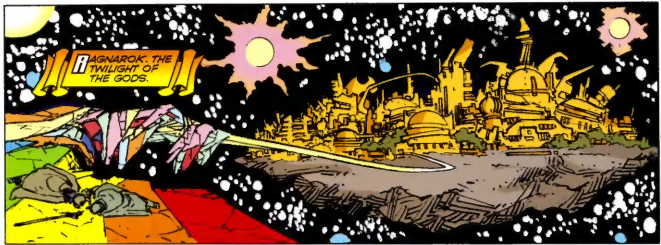
OF THE
NEW ASGARDS



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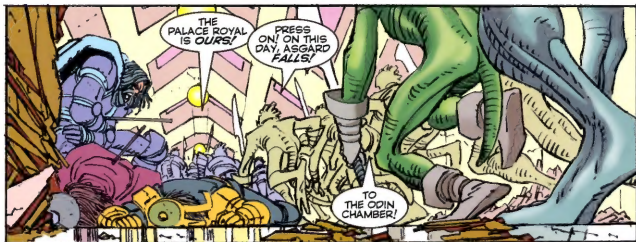


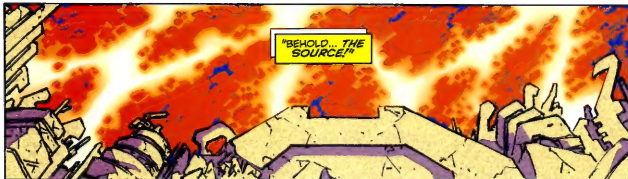
THORION OF THE NEW ASGARDS Vol. 1, No. 1, June, 1997. Published by MARVEL COMICS, David J. Schreiff, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Stempel Rhoades, Executive VP, Publishing, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Copyright © 1997 Marvel Characters, Inc. and DC Comics. All Amalgam characters, the distinctive likenesses thereof, names and related elements are jointly held trademarks of DC Comics and Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$1.95 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.75 in Canada, GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Printed in Canada.

THE FINAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE
GODS AND THE FORCES OF EVIL.



JUDGMENT WRIT IN
THUNDER AND BLOOD.







THERE CAME A
TIME WHEN THE OLD
GODS... CHANGED.



A full-page comic book illustration of Thorion the Hunter. He is a muscular figure with long blonde hair, wearing a blue cape and a red and white armored suit. He is holding a large, glowing yellow hammer in his right hand, which is raised high. He is surrounded by a storm of yellow lightning bolts and dark, jagged rock fragments. The background is a dark, stormy sky with purple and blue hues.

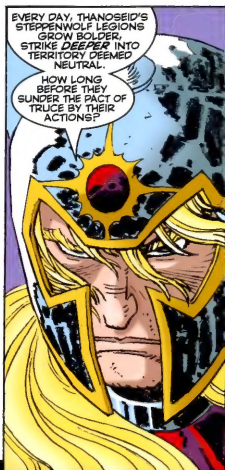
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HIM IT
WAS ---

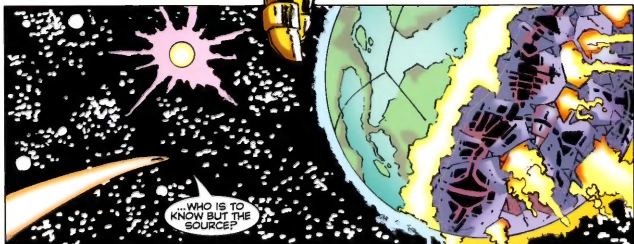
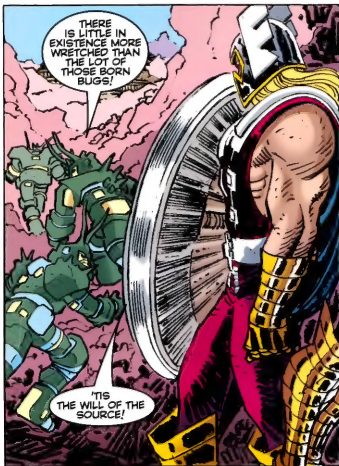
THORION

THE HUNTER!

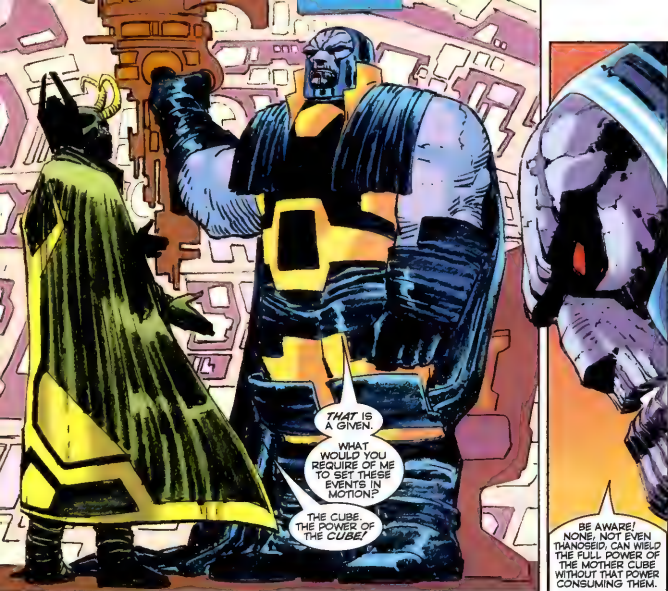
A KEITH GIFFEN &
JOHN ADMITA Jr.
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DIGITAL CHAMELEON
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EDITOR IN CHIEF
MARK GRUENWALD
THE SOURCE



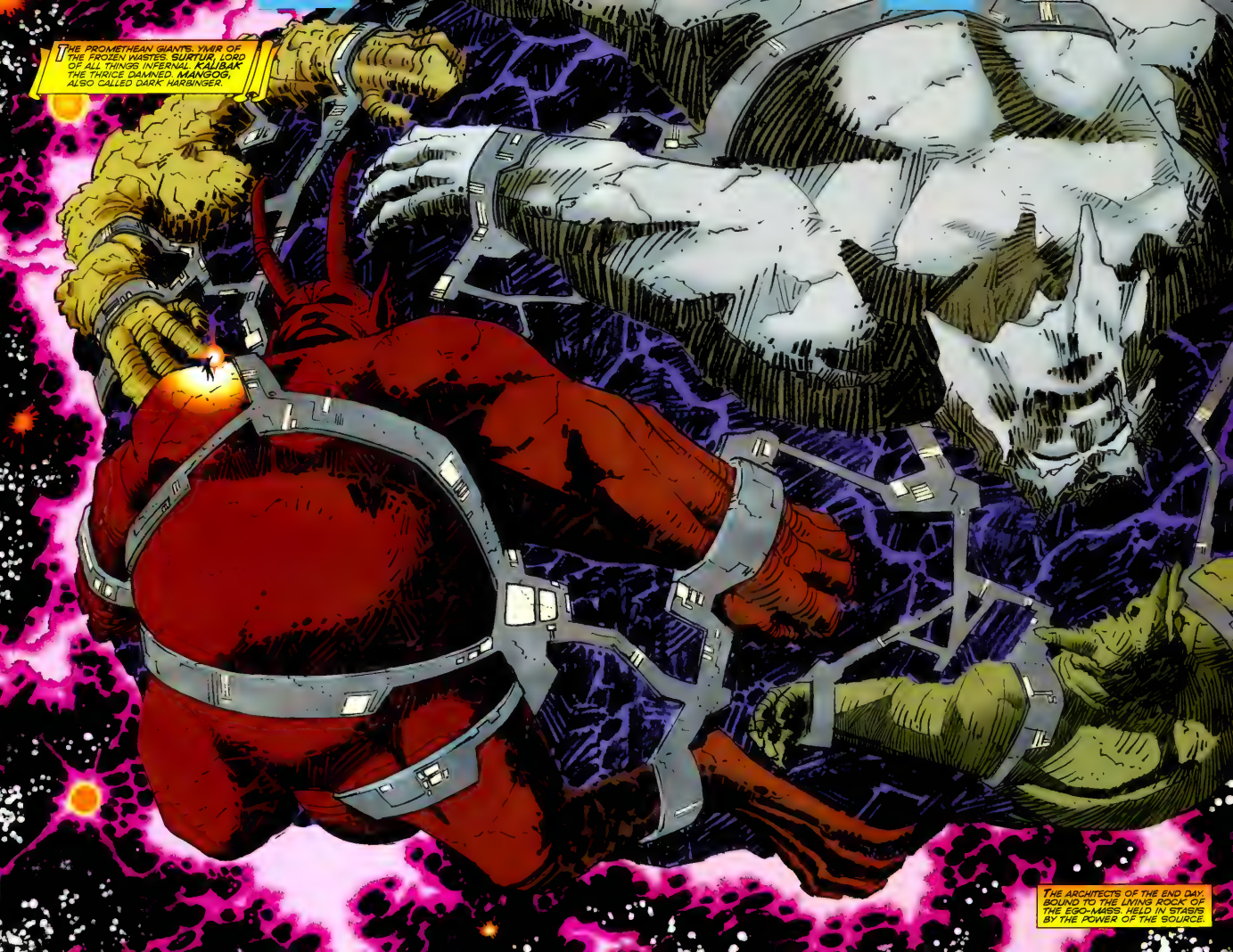












THE PROMETHEAN GIANTS, YMBR OF THE FROZEN WASTES, SURTURA, LORD OF ALL THINGS INFERNAL, KALIBAK, THE THRICE DAMNED MANGOG, ALSO CALLED DARK HARBINGER.

THE ARCHITECTS OF THE END DAY, BOUND TO THE LIVING ROCK OF THE EGO-MASS, HELD IN STASIS BY THE POWER OF THE SOURCE.



BY
THE POWER OF
THE MOTHER CUBE DO I
FINISH THAT ONCE BEGUN!
RAGNAROK! THE
END OF ALL!

COME TO
ME, CURSED HALF-
BROTHER!



SEE THE POWER THAT IS
L'OK DESAAD'S TO
COMMAND! BEAR WITNESS
TO MY ULTIMATE
TRIUMPH!



THORION HAS
COME.

THE
SICKNESS IN
YOUR SOUL, IT
DRIVES YOU
TO THIS?



TEMPER
YOUR WORDS WITH
RESPECT! *MINE* IS
THE HAND THAT
WIELDS THE INFINITY
ESSENCE!

THUS
YOU WOULD
DESTROY US ALL.
MY TRUE FATHER
HAS TAUGHT
YOU WELL.





AMALGAM NATION

CARWALD'S CORNERBOX

Fun! That's the name of the game.

Seems like everywhere you turn these days, there's somebody spoutin' off about the deficit of "fun" in his funnybooks.

To which we say, "Balderdash!"

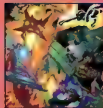
Now, there's no denyin' that the comic-book biz is just that—a business. And there are times when the profit-and-loss side of the equation seems to overshadow everything else, particularly with the advent of the faster-than-thought communication of the World Wide Web. (Speaking of which, have you gotten an eyeful of our fully-functional Amalgam Website yet? Four out of five dentists recommend it...and the fifth doesn't own a computer!)

But the bottom line is that nobody joins the wacky workaday world of producing four-color fantasies with the intention of getting rich. We do this because we love comics, the same as you do. There's no better place to work than in the comic biz. And the reason is, it's fun.

So have some fun today, Amalgamen and Amalgamettes. We are.

And remember, we remain ever dedicated to bringing you the finest in illustrated picto-literature! Because we know you demand no less! Accelerate!

—M.M. CARWALD



JLA UNLEASHED #1: Decimated by the Armageddon Agenda, the JLA lies at the mercy of the Hellfire League of Injustice when they summon the brimstone-born Fin Fang Foom! By Christopher "Maxi" Priest, Oscar "Jumping" Jimenez and Humbal "The Cannibal" Rodriguez.

GENERATION HEX #1: Ride back into the Wild West days of the Amalgam Universe and see how disfigured renegade Jono Hex assembled the world's first band of mutant gunglifiers: Skinhunter, Madame Banshee, and the mysterious Retribution—all out for vengeance against a town called Humanity! By "Pearlman" Peter Mulligan, "Madam, I'm" Adam Pollina and Mark "More, More, More" Morales.



THE DARK CLAW ADVENTURES #1: Based on the hit TV show *Dark Claw: The Animated Series*, a deadly assassin called Lady Tula is loose in New Gotham! And she's after the man who killed her father, Ra's A-Pocalypse—namely, Logan! By Ty "The Guy" Templeton and "Rambunctious" Rick Burchett.



LOBO THE DUCK #1: The Main Mallard is after the mastermind responsible for the destruction of Manhattan and the deaths of the greatest Amalgam heroes! And not even his faithful girlfriend Bivarlene can ease the mighty duck's troubled mind—especially when the Lunatik-Bug bounces into the act. By Alan "The Anarchist" Grant, "Voracious" Val Semeiks, and Ray "Railroad" Kryssing.

BAT-THING #1: When a scientist mutates into a creature part human and part bat, the world can only call him—Bat-Thing! Human no longer, the hideous being seeks revenge on the motorcycle gang responsible for his cursed existence! By "Laughin'" Larry Hama, Rodolfo "Joe" Damaggio, and Bill "Sink-or-swim" Sienkiewicz.



ALL-STAR WINNERS SOCIETY #1: Return to the Golden Age of Amalgam as the world's greatest human fighting machine joins forces with Sgt. Rock and his Howling Commandos! But can even their combined might overcome the maniacal Major Zemo's deadly War Wheel? Guest starring the All-Star Winners Society! By "Malevolent" Mark Wald, "Dauntless" Dave Gibbons, and Jimmy "Jummy" Palmiotti.

CHALLENGERS OF THE FANTASTIC #1: Sue "Ace" Storm: fearless agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.! Reed "Prof" Richards: dynamic science genius! Johnny "Red" Storm: daredevil youth! Ben "Rocket" Grimm: two-fisted U.S. senator! They're four frankly fearless people who seek out and defy mind-blowing menaces in mysterious places! But can even they stand against the coming of Galactica? By Karl "Don't Call Me Barbara" Keel, "Titanic" Tom Grummett, and "Anxious" Al Vey.



THORION OF THE NEW ASGODS #1: Between the realms of New Asgard and Apoklops, Thorion battles his hated brother LOK D'Saad, while the fate of the galaxy itself hangs in the balance! But LOK has a secret weapon: the all-powerful MOTHER LOBE. And waiting in the shadows: Thanos! By "Kinetic" Keith Giffen and "Jumpin'" John Romita, Jr.

IRON LANTERN #1: Empowered by OA, the Living Planet, Hal Stark wears the life-sustaining armor of Iron Lantern! But can the Armored Emerald Gladiator save Stark Aircraft from the colossal Great White, the hatred of Madame Sapphire, and the world-shattering power of Mandarinestro? By "Curt" Kurt Busiek, "Tall" Paul Smith, and Al "The Pal" Williamson.



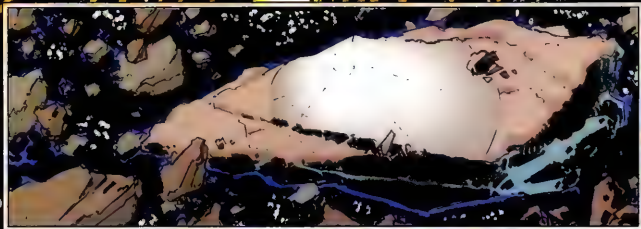
THE EXCITING X-PATROL #1: Niles Cable, Elastic-Gel, Shatterstar, Ferro Man, Beastling, and Dial H.U.S.K.! They're back—and they must face Brother Brood in a battle to the death! And if they survive—can they endure the trials of the Brood Pit? By Barbara "Don't Call Me Karl" Keel and "Bouncin'" Bryan Hitch.

SPIDER-BOY TEAM-UP #1: Spider-Boy is saved from certain doom by another spider-powered teen who could be Spider-Boy 2099! Using the Time Cube, the heroic duo travel back to the future to meet the Legion of Galactic Guardians. By Karl "Now I'm Confused" Keel, Roger "Ramjet" Stern, Jo "The Padron" Ladrone, and "Say It Ain't So" Vlesco.

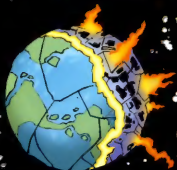


MAGNETIC MEN FEATURING MAGNETO #1: Just as the refurbished Magnetic Men attempt to join human society, they must go up against the lethal Sinister Society and a slew of new evil robots. By Tom "Terrific" Peyer, "Bodacious" Barry Kitson and "Dancin'" Dan Panosian.





EPilogue



THERE WAS NO LONGER
A FIT PLACE FOR HIM IN
ALL THE TWIN REALMS.
NOT IN SEETHING
APOKALYPSE, NOR IN
GLEAMING NEW ASSGARD.

BOTH WERE
DENIED HIM.



THERE WERE THOSE
WHO HONORED HIS
SACRIFICE...



...THOSE WHO
CURSED IT...



...THOSE WHO
MOURNED IT...

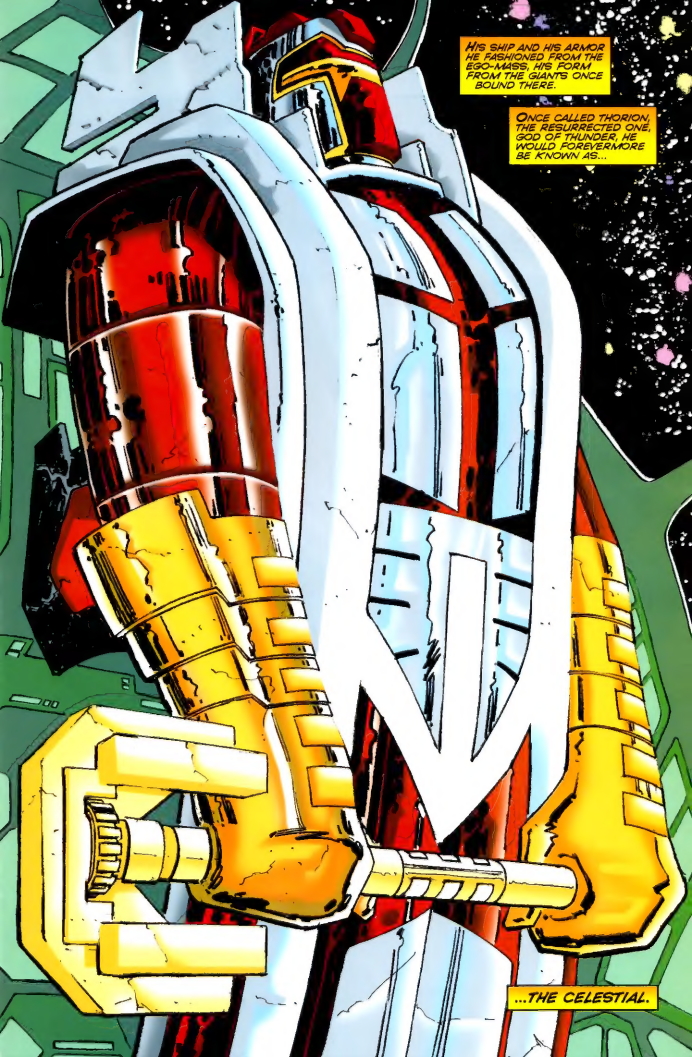


...AND THOSE WHO
MADE OF IT THE
STUFF OF LEGEND.

THE ENERGIES RELEASED THAT DAY
LIT THE FIRMAMENT SURROUNDING
THE TWIN REALMS FOR DAYS AFTER.



WITHIN THAT CORUSCATING MASS,
HE WAS BORN ANEW. THE COMBINED
ENERGIES OF THE INFINITY ESSENCE
AND THE ASTRO-FORCE IRRADIATED
HIM, SHAPED HIM, MADE OF HIM A
BEING OF LIVING ENERGY.



*HIS SHIP AND HIS ARMOR
HE FASHIONED FROM THE
EGO-MASS, HIS FORM
FROM THE GIANTS ONCE
BOUND THERE.*

*ONCE CALLED THORION,
THE RESURRECTED ONE,
GOD OF THUNDER, HE
WOULD FOREVERMORE
BE KNOWN AS...*

...THE CELESTIAL.

Dear Editor:

Journey Into Forever #82 was the perfect recipe for a tantalizing tale of Thorion and the New Asgods!

We start off in awe as we witness the wonder of the throne room of Odin the Highfather. But we are quickly thrown into the midst of battle as the Asgodian warriors must stave off a threat from Granny Gullin, the Boar God. It stirs the blood to see our Thorion go into battle alongside such heroes as Bald'r Lightbringer and Infinity, the Beta-Ray Man!

Once the battle is won, the grandeur of those scenes is brought home in a compelling way by the contrast with Thorion's life on Earth. Those clashes seem even more dramatic after seeing our Asgodian revert to Don Free, master locksmith, and go about his mundane business with the help of his assistant, Oberon Foster.

I have one request: Please feature more of the "Tales From Supertown!" back-up stories that have run only sporadically so far. I really enjoy that insight into some of the supporting cast in the Asgodian legends, such as Heimron, the formidable warrior standing ever-watching guard at the Rainbow Chair. Let loose your new creative team onto all of writer/artist Jack Lee's creations and let them explore the corners of his mind!

Melissa DeBleck Jr.
(Address withheld by request)

Letting our guys loose in Jack Lee's brain wouldn't be a pretty sight. Melissa, but we know what you mean. We hope you liked the all-out battle scenes this month as Kicky Kieth and Jazzy Johnny Junior let us take a peek at the other side of Ragnarok! We thought it was the perfect way to kick off the incredible first issue of Thorion's own title. We didn't have room to squeeze in much of Don Free's professional life, but that's only because we wanted to save a big dollop of it for next time!

Dear Thorion Chroniclers:

I've been reading your Amalgam books since you first started, to those many years ago, and the legendary scope you bring to Journey Into Forever has long made it my favorite.

There's good contrast in the villains that come to menace our hero, balancing mythic scope with (literally) down-to-Earth danger. It just screams, "Amalgam!" Nobody does it like you guys!

With that in mind, I would like to see the return of several past villains, who seemed to be defeated only by the most random of circumstances. Foremost on my list would be those fearsome brothers, Kailbak & Hyde. Having the potion that turns them into such fierce menaces run out just as Thorion was about to be defeated just isn't fair! Give them another chance to challenge our Asgodian champion when they're at their best.

Another one I'd love to see return is the Absorbing Bug. His ability to ingest any material and split into dozens of little creatures with those properties makes him a difficult villain to corral!

THE SOURCE STRIKES!

Also on my list would be the fierce woman who in her only appearance fought Thorion to a draw: Stepenorn, the wolf queen!

Please consider my requests. Bringing back these villains would make Journey Into Forever even greater than it already is!

Olav Spertling
Flushing, The Netherlands

While we agree that Journey Into Forever was a great comic, Olav, we hope you like our cast even more now that they've been given their own title to play with! We've got lots of plans for upcoming months, including one of the villains you request! So stay tuned!

Dear Editors:

Please settle a bet I have with my friend. I say that in an all-out battle, Thorion would beat Super-Soldier. My favorite magazine, Fanzard, says Thorion comes out on top. What say you?

Uncle Elvis Marchese
Clark, KY

We say we hope we never have to find out. Unk! Both heroes are known for talking first and hitting later, so ideally they would figure out they were on the same side before going at it hammer and shield! If one of them was being mind-controlled by an outside force, as Deviance the Storm Giant did that time with Thorion, it no doubt would weaken that hero's willpower enough that the other hero would emerge victorious! How's that for Another Ambitious Amalgam Alibi?

Dear Editor:

I love the new creative team on Thorion! They've picked up on ideas creator Jack Lee barely touched on before moving onto other areas, and it makes perfect sense to go back and revisit some of these classic events to find the deeper meanings.

I have a few questions for you:

1. Will Thorion ever get his own book?
2. Will we see the Enchanted Tigra again? Such a strong counterpart to Thanosaid shouldn't just be left as a stone statue out on the plains of Yggdrasil!

3. In this year's Journey Into Forever Annual, please reprint two of my favorite stories: "O' Deadly Thanosaid!" and "If This Be The Pact!" They're critical to the origin of Thorion and haven't been seen since their first appearance many years ago!

4. Will the Un-People ever make a guest appearance? They seem like the ideal team to fight alongside the New Asgodsians! My favorites

5. If the Un-People do appear, please leave Triserinak at home! Whoever added a karate-chopping, aquatic cowboy to such a great team should be stoned!

Sorry to be so harsh, but the Un-People are some of my favorite characters, and I hate to see them weakened by a teammate who turns them into a laughingstock. It's just not the Amalgam way! Thanks for listening!

Mark Haden Aniquist

You're welcome, Mark! We hope you like our answers as much as we liked your questions:

1. You got it! Amalgam Awards Allegiance Already!

2. The Enchanted Tigra has lost the affection of Thanosaid. It appears, and he's moved onto a new babe who looks a little like death warmed over. But as our esteemed (steamed?) leader, M. M. Carwald, keeps reminding us, we never say never to the Astonishing Amalgam Assemblage. So keep reading!

3. Those are great stories, and we've got them on our list, perhaps for our next Strange Origins Annual. But we don't think you'll be disappointed by the two Demand Masterpieces appearing in this year's first-ever Thorion Annual. The first is "To Die Like A New Asgodian," presenting Thorion's first meeting with the avatar of death, the Silver Racer! It'll be coupled with "Behold—The Living Doomed Dominion," the first appearance of Oa, the Living Planet! For a quick glimpse of Oa today, check out Iron Lantern #1, on sale this week!

4. We're big fans of The Un-People, so it's probably only a matter of time before there's an appearance by some of your favorites. If not the whole blamed team! We can't promise a back-up feature, but check out the all-new Challengers of the Fantastic #1, on sale this week, which features a cameo appearance by the Un-People. It could be the start of something big!

5. We admit that Triserinak may be pushing things. But at least we're not timid when it comes to creating new characters! Just one more example of how willing we are to go right over the edge in trying to create the kind of comics you want to read! So have mercy, fellow ones!

NEXT ISSUE: You won't want to miss this Big Battle Issue! Thorion, Bald'r Lightbringer, and the warrior realm of the New Asgodsians try to defeat Lok D'saad and his evil hosts once and for all! Plus, we flash back to the early days of Thorion's life to see how he met the love of his life, Big Sit! Until next time, sit up straight, For-



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MINUTEMEN



See No Bob



Hear No Bob